

**Medieval Memoria Research in the Low Countries**  
Newsletter



October, 2010  
Issue 6

## Table of contents

Editorial - by Truus van Bueren

### Publications

- › Recent publications
- › Books (tables of contents)

### Symposia and congresses

- › St. Johannes in Brechten als Erinnerungsort des Ruhrgebiets
- › Dortmund als Hansestadt: Fernhandel und Kulturtransfer
- › Workshop: Funerary Culture in the Medieval and Early Modern Netherlands
- › Seventh Symposium on *Memoria* Research
- › The MeMO-project at IMC Leeds 2011

### MeMO news

- › A brand new look for the MMR website!
- › The description standard MeMO DS
- › The data model
- › Commemoration in the Convent Mariënpoel: Prayer and Politics

### Other news

- › Between heaven and hell. Death in the Middle Ages
- › PhD researcher: Hartwig Kersken

We would like to thank the RACM in Amersfoort for giving us permission to publish images from their archives.

Frontpage: Sepulchral monument in the church of Our Lady in Breda, made for Engelbrecht II of Nassau and Cimburga of Baden (circa 1531-34), with on the lower platform the figures of the deceased, lying on a straw mat, and on the upper platform a complete suit of armour. The monument was erected long after the couple's death (resp. in 1504 and 1501), by Engelbrecht's cousin Hendrik II, who inherited his uncle's estates as Engelbrecht and Cimburga had no children.

## In memoriam Kees Schuddeboom

It is our sad duty to announce that the art historian dr. Kees Schuddeboom passed away at the age of 60 on 21 July 2010. As a professor of Late Classical and Early Medieval art, he was active in the Humanities faculty of Utrecht University for over 30 years. He was involved as an expert on tomb monuments in the MeMO project, actively participating in the preparations for the project. In spite of his illness he acted on several occasions as an advisor in the first year of MeMO. Kees will be greatly missed.

On behalf of the MeMO team,

Truus



## Editorial

### Introduction

We are proud to present the sixth issue of the *Medieval Memoria Online Newsletter* in a new layout, designed by our editor, Charlotte Dikken (Utrecht University). The sections remain the same: you will find information on recent publications, congresses and symposiums, and various news items in the field of the commemoration of the dead.

One of this issue's publications is the paper presented by Anna Adamska (Utrecht University) at the fourth German–Dutch colloquium on *memoria* research (Utrecht, February 2009). This paper gives an overview of the very interesting developments in Central Europe in the field of the medieval commemoration of the dead up to 2008. It provides plenty of reasons to strengthen contacts with researchers in these countries.

The publication of the newsletter is a good opportunity to look back on the first year and to briefly look ahead to the next two years of the MeMO project. We have every reason to be content: our targets for the first year have been reached and the results and products are now published on our website *Medieval Memoria Research*:

<http://memo.hum.uu.nl/pages/products.html>.

### The description standard MeMO DS

Among the project's first aims was the development of an international description standard, MeMO DS. Existing description standards proved not entirely suitable for a project such as MeMO, which takes the concept of *memoria* as its starting point.

Due to the efforts of Rolf de Weijert (coordinator) and an international group of specialists we can now present MeMO DS on our website. MeMO DS consists of one standard for object sources and one for texts and text carriers (*MeMO DS Objects* and *MeMO DS Texts* respectively). For the Institutions database, which provides information on the institutions from where the described sources originate, a standard has been created by Rolf de Weijert (Utrecht University) and Koen Goudriaan (VU University Amsterdam). The Institutions database will soon be published on the website.

## The data model and the databases

The standards for the various databases formed the basis for the development of the data model and the development of the databases.

- The data model was designed by Jan van Mansum at *Data Archiving and Networked Services* (DANS) in collaboration with Rolf de Weijert and in consultation with Leen Breure (Utrecht University). You will find the result on the MeMO website.
- It was decided to use Grails for the databases. For general information on this open source web application framework see: <http://www.grails.org/>. The databases have been developed by Jan van Mansum and Martin Braaksma at DANS in collaboration with Rolf de Weijert.

## Other products

Over the past year other products related to MeMO were developed or finalised:

- First, the MeMO website, *Medieval Memoria Online* (<http://memo.hum.uu.nl/>), deserves mention. The website presents the results of the project on the Internet. Charlotte Dikken is the designer and webmaster.
- The contents of the *Memoria in Beeld* (Representations of Medieval Memoria, <http://www.let.uu.nl/memorie/>) database were updated extensively by Fenna Visser and Truus van Bueren (Utrecht University). This database catalogues Dutch representations of *memoria* until circa 1630. Some introductory articles on the subject were also added, both in Dutch and in English. Rutger Kramer (DANS) was responsible for the website and the search tools. The database *Memoria in Beeld* will eventually be included in the English MeMO application.
- The Rich Internet Application called *Commemoration in the Convent Mariënpoel: Prayer and Politics* (<http://www.cs.uu.nl/research/projects/i-cult/CLE/6Memoria/>) is an interactive website. It is especially aimed at students and other interested parties, to allow them to familiarise themselves with all aspects concerning the commemoration of the dead. The RIA, created by Leen Breure and Truus van Bueren, is a scholarly publication which aims to be accessible to a wider audience. The Research Notes will be added to the RIA shortly.
- In a few weeks we shall also present on our website the Dutch-language website *Kloosterkleding in beeld* (Representations of monastic dress), a website and database accompanying the master thesis by Lonneke Hoondert, which is a follow-up of the thesis and website by Kassandra van Houdt (both at Utrecht University).
- A first version of the *Bibliography Medieval Memoria Research for the Low Countries* was compiled by Viera Bonenkampová, Ph.D. student at VU University Amsterdam, and Kim Ragetli, who at that time was a research master student at Utrecht University.  
<http://memo.hum.uu.nl/pdf/Bibliography-Memoria.pdf>
- To conclude we would like to mention the symposiums, the MeMO publications and the papers we presented. The organisation of the symposiums was undertaken by Jeannette van Arenthals, Kim Ragetli and Rolf de Weijert (Utrecht, 25-27 May and Leeds, 12-15 July, see also: <http://www.let.uu.nl/mmr/pages/archive-symposiums.shtml>). Articles were written by Truus van Bueren, Fenna Visser and Rolf de Weijert. An extensive discussion paper written by Truus van Bueren and Kim Ragetli has been reworked into an article and will be published soon. (<http://www.let.uu.nl/mmr/pages/archive-publications.shtml>)

The English translations and text editing were mostly provided by Jeannette van Arenthals and Charlotte Dikken.

### A look ahead

Two substantial tasks await us in this academic year:

- Entering the information into the databases and undertaking all further research required for this. This work is carried out at the three participating universities, VU University Amsterdam (the Institutions database and part of the Memorial Registers database), University of Groningen (Narrative Sources database), and Utrecht University (Memorial Paintings and Sculptures database, Tomb Monuments database and part of the Memorial Registers database). Visit our website for a list of all co-workers:  
<http://memo.hum.uu.nl/pages/team.html>.
- Creating a central portal for our databases and for links to other websites that are important to *memoria* researchers, a thesaurus (English, German and Dutch) and extensive, user-friendly search features for the MeMO users.

We hope to present the final results at an international congress in January 2013.

Truus van Bueren  
General project leader

## Recent publications

The following list of publications does not represent a complete bibliography about medieval *memoria* and related subjects, but is only intended to provide the reader with the most recent titles. This list is an addition to the original list published in the first newsletter. For the complete list of publications featured in MMR, please visit our website: <http://mmr.let.uu.nl/pages/archive-publications.html>. For the newly released *memoria* bibliography please visit: <http://memo.hum.uu.nl/pdf/Bibliography-Memoria.pdf>.

2010

- Anna Adamska, 'Developments in *Memoria*-Research in East Central Europe', in MMR 6 (2010) see: [http://www.let.uu.nl/mmr/pdf/Adamska-Developments\\_in\\_Memoria-Research.pdf](http://www.let.uu.nl/mmr/pdf/Adamska-Developments_in_Memoria-Research.pdf)
- Caroline M. Barron, Clive Burgess, eds., *Memory and Commemoration in Medieval England*, 2008 Harlaxton Symposium Proceedings (Shaun Tyas, 2010).
- Jan van Oudheusden, Harry Tummers, eds., *De grafzerken van de Sint-Jan te 's-Hertogenbosch* (2010).
- Fenna Visser, 'De website "Memoria in beeld". Een hulpmiddel bij het onderzoek van memorievoorstellingen', in: *Rhein-Maas. Studien zur Geschichte, Sprache und Kultur* 1 (2010) 255-263.

Forthcoming

- Anna Adamska, 'Founding a Monastery over Dinner: The Case of Henryków in Silesia (c. 1222-1228)', in: Marco Mostert and Paul Barnwell (eds.), *Medieval Legal Process: Physical, Spoken and Written Performance in the Middle Ages*. (USML 19 Turnhout, to be published in 2011).

## Article in MMR

This issue of MMR does not only feature news updates and announcements, but for the first time also hosts an article. This article by Anna Adamska, 'Developments in *Memoria*-Research in East Central Europe', can be downloaded separately from the main newsletter. To do so, please use the following link:

[http://www.let.uu.nl/mmr/pdf/Adamska-Developments\\_in\\_Memoria-Research.pdf](http://www.let.uu.nl/mmr/pdf/Adamska-Developments_in_Memoria-Research.pdf)

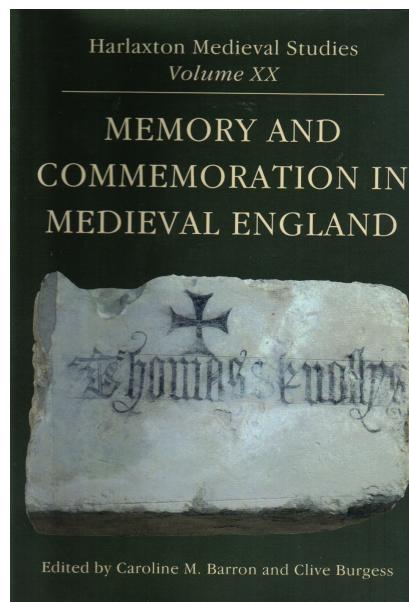
MMR may also host other articles in the future.

## Books (tables of contents)

**Caroline M. Barron, Clive Burgess, eds., *Memory and Commemoration in Medieval England*, 2008**  
Harlaxton Symposium Proceedings (Shaun Tyas, 2010).

This new publication contains a great number of contributions from various authors on many different subjects concerning memoria. **The publisher has kindly offered a special discount to all MMR readers!** Mention the “MeMO offer” when you place your order, and you will receive this fantastic publication for just £40.00 (including postage), even if orders come from the Continent. The normal retail price is £49.50 (*excluding* postage), so this is a real bargain! The publisher’s contact details are:

[pwatkins@pwatkinspublishing.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:pwatkins@pwatkinspublishing.fsnet.co.uk)  
Tel: + (0) 1775 821 542



### Contents

List of Contributors

List of Illustrations

Preface by the Editors

*Pamela Tudor-Craig*

The Origins of the Harlaxton Symposium in 1983

\* \* \*

*Nick Holder*

Medieval Foundation Stones and Foundation Ceremonies

*Claire Gobbi Daunton*

Contrasting Patrons and their Glass: the Church of St John the Baptist, Mileham, Norfolk

*Robert Kinsey*

The Location of Commemoration in Late Medieval England: the Case of the Thorpes of Northamptonshire

*David Lepine*

‘Their Name Liveth for Evermore?’ Obits at Exeter Cathedral in the Later Middle Ages

*David J. King*

Henry Scrope’s Window at Heydour, Lincolnshire

*Mark Ormrod*

Queenship, Death and Agency: the Commemoration of Isabella of France and Philippa of Hainault

*Jennifer Ward*

Who to Commemorate and Why? The Commemoration of the Nobility in Eastern England in the Fourteenth Century

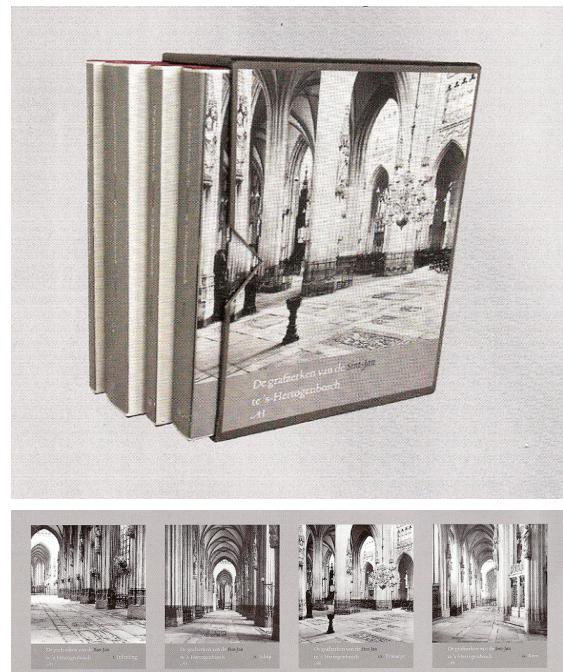
*Christian Steer*

Royal and Noble Commemoration in the Mendicant Houses of Medieval London

- Meriel Connor* Fifteenth-Century Monastic Obituaries: the Evidence of Christ Church Priory, Canterbury
- Richard Marks* ‘Entumbed right princely’: the Beauchamp Chapel at Warwick and the Politics of Interment
- Sophie Oosterwijk* Death, Memory and Commemoration: John Lydgate and ‘Macabrees Daunce’ at Old St Paul’s Cathedral, London
- Sally Badham* The Robertsons Remembered: Two Generations of Calais Staplers at Algarkirk, Lincolnshire
- Mellie Naydenova-Slade* Late Medieval Holy Kinship Images and Family Commemoration: the Evidence from Thornhill, West Yorkshire and Latton, Essex
- Cindy Wood* The Cage Chantries of Christchurch Priory
- David Griffiths* English Commemorative Inscriptions: Some Literary Dimensions
- Nicholas Orme* The Commemoration of Places in Medieval England
- Peregrine Horden* Origins of ‘All Souls’ and its Significance for Henry Chichele
- \* \* \*
- Paul Binski* Developments in the Study of Medieval Art since 1983
- Derek Pearsall* Developments in the Study of Middle English Literature since 1983
- Joel T. Rosenthal* Developments in the Study of Medieval History since 1983
- Index

**Jan van Oudheusden & Harry Tummers, eds.**, *De grafzerken van de Sint-Jan te 's-Hertogenbosch*, ISBN 9789086801367; executed in duo-tone, luxuriously bound, 4 volumes in a slip-case, 204 x 305 mm, c. 1552 pages; to be published by the end of November 2010.

This publication consists of four volumes. The volumes two, three and four are devoted to the description of all the 520 still existing grave slabs in the church of Sint-Jan in 's-Hertogenbosch, which date from the fourteenth up to and including the eighteenth century. Each slab is described in a catalogue entry of at least one page in length, and each entry is accompanied by a high quality photograph. All slabs were officially photographed by the 'Rijksdienst voor het Cultureel Erfgoed' (Cultural Heritage Agency). The descriptions contain information on material details (present location, measurements and the type of stone, a copy of the inscription (including abbreviations, contractions, letters in superscript, any letters with diacritical signs and even the clear mistakes) and also translations for the Middle Dutch and Latin inscriptions). The present state of the slabs is also mentioned, as are their formal designs, heraldry, the genealogical and historical data of the persons mentioned on the slabs and the history of the slabs (their former positions when known and the different owners over time). In a few cases genealogical charts are also included, especially for those families whose members had more than two separate slabs made.



The introductory volume one contains four essays. The first essay (Anton Schuttelaars), deals with the funeral rituals as practised in the town of 's-Hertogenbosch through the ages and with the division of the slabs over the several professional and occupational groups of citizens. A second essay (Harry Tummers) examines the history of grave slabs in general, the art-historical value of many of the 's-Hertogenbosch slabs and their specific characteristics, and compares them with a few collections of slabs in other old Dutch churches. The third essay (Jan Melissen) is about the importance and characteristics of the heraldry and the fourth essay (Robert-Jan van der Drift) is devoted to the finds discovered in the several grave registers, preserved in the church and municipal archives.

Moreover, in this first introductory volume, one will find a worked-out list of all slabs that have been lost but that are known from archival data; this list contains about 185 entries. Furthermore, an extensive register is included with more than 5.000 entries for personal names, as well as many other entries for occupations, functions and institutions, place and street names and names of houses.

This edition is a completely new remake of the 1912 publication by D<sup>r</sup>. C.F.Xav. Smits, *De grafzerken in de S<sup>r</sup>. Janskerk te 's-Hertogenbosch*. This was the first publication in the Netherlands in which all of the then known grave slabs of a single church were described. The descriptions, however, were limited to the transcribed inscriptions and prints of the heraldry found on the slabs.

Around 1900 there was a conspicuous cultural interest in grave slabs in 's-Hertogenbosch. This is apparent not only in the publication by Smits, but also in the two still existing sets of drawings executed at the time by the art teacher L. van Valkenburg. He made very fine and very

accurate pencil drawings of some 350 slabs, which were then converted by him into excellent pen drawings. They were originally meant for the publication by Smits, but, in the end only a limited part of most drawings (the armorial bearings) and a few complete drawings were included. The drawings were then forgotten, until very recently, when they were rediscovered respectively in the church archives of the Sint-Jan and in the so-called Brabant Collection in the library of Tilburg University.

In addition three older manuscripts are known to deal with the 's-Hertogenbosch slabs: the so-called MS 1709 (private collection), the MS Van der Lely (more or less a copy of MS 1709) and MS Martini from 1821/43. The latter two are preserved in the 'Brabant Collection' in the library of Tilburg University. All three manuscripts mainly deal with the heraldry of the grave slabs, but also give the transcribed inscriptions.

Although in the present publication pride of place is given to the official, newly made photographs, where possible use has also been made of the illustrations from the collection of the Van Valkenburg drawings and from the three mentioned manuscripts.

This new eye-catching publication gives a complete and up-to-date overview of all the grave slabs of the Sint-Jan cathedral of the town of 's-Hertogenbosch. Generally speaking, grave slabs have not always received the attention they deserve. Their importance in the field of heraldry and genealogy has often been recognised in the past. Their formal artistic quality, however, has often been overlooked. In addition our knowledge of historical persons has lately increased very much. All these new angles and considerations have been incorporated in this publication. The volumes include art-historical, heraldic, genealogical and historical information as well as all known archival data.

Although this project also includes the seventeenth and the eighteenth century, it will be relevant for Medieval Memorial researchers. The Reformation, brought about in 's-Hertogenbosch in 1629, had a far-reaching influence on several aspects of grave slabs in churches, but it did not change the fact that grave slabs continued to be used. About half of the 's-Hertogenbosch slabs are of the sixteenth and the seventeenth centuries, while the rest are more or less evenly distributed over the periods before and after.

For more information see: [www.degrafzerkenvandesintjan.nl](http://www.degrafzerkenvandesintjan.nl)

Harry Tummers

## Upcoming symposiums and congresses

### St. Johannes in Brechten als Erinnerungsort des Ruhrgebiets

7. Dortmunder Kolloquium zur Kunst, Kultur und Geschichte in der spätmittelalterlichen Stadt

Date 21-23 October 2010  
 Location Dortmund  
 Language German

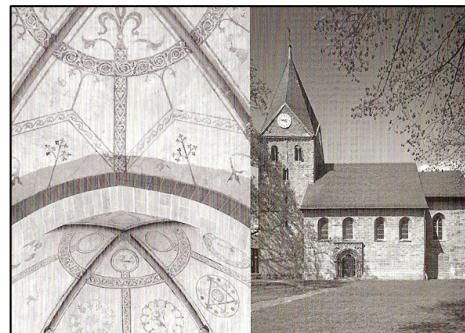
The *Dortmunder Kolloquium zur Kunst, Kultur und Geschichte in der spätmittelalterlichen Stadt* focusses on the history of the Ruhr district in Germany, and specifically on Dortmund. During this particular symposium, which is the seventh of this series, the St.-Johann-Baptist-Kirche takes centre stage.

For more information, please consult the provided scans of the flyers. A larger version of the programme can be downloaded here:

[http://www.let.uu.nl/mmr/images/St\\_Johannes\\_in\\_Brechten.jpg](http://www.let.uu.nl/mmr/images/St_Johannes_in_Brechten.jpg)

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 Prof. Dr. Barbara Welzel [barbara.welzel@tu-dortmund.de](mailto:barbara.welzel@tu-dortmund.de)



Die Wahrnehmung des Ruhrgebiets ist stark durch Industrialisierung und Strukturwandel geprägt. Doch birgt die Region bedeutende Zeugnisse vormoderner Kultur. Die Geschichte von St. Johannes in Brechten, das zum Frauenstift in Essen gehörte, beginnt mit der Christianisierung. Bis heute ist der Kirchenbau des 13. Jahrhunderts mit seiner bedeutenden Ausmalung erhalten: ein Kleinod mittelalterlicher Architektur und Kunst.

Auch das siebte Dortmunder Mittelalter-Kolloquium will wieder die nahtlose Erschließung des Ortes (seine Geschichte, die Pfarrorganisation, den Kirchenbau, die Ausstattung und die Glocken) mit Horizonterkundungen (etwa zur Geschichte der Denkmalpflege oder zur Erinnerungskultur) in einen spannungsreichen Dialog setzen. Es möchte Ergebnisse aktueller interdisziplinärer Forschung für die interessierte Öffentlichkeit kommunizieren und so zur kulturellen Selbstverständigung der Region im europäischen Kontext beitragen.

Die Tagung ist für Interessierte geöffnet, eine Anmeldung ist nicht erforderlich.

Während der Tagung wird am Freitag um 12.30 Uhr und um 18.00 Uhr, gegen Kostenbeteiligung, ein Imbiss im Gemeindehaus angeboten.

<b>Donnerstag, 21. Oktober 2010</b>	
19:30 Uhr	Begrüßung: Pfarrer Hanno Gerke und Prof. Dr. Thomas Schilp
Grußworte: Prof. Dr. Ulrich Borsdorf, Ruhr Museum, Essen	Prof. Dr. Klaus-Peter Busse, Technische Universität Dortmund, Rektoratsbeauftragter für RUHR.2010
Prof. Dr. Barbara Welzel, Obermeister der Steinmetzgilde zu Dortmund	Guido Baranowski, Obermeister der Reinoldigilde zu Dortmund
Prof. Dr. Barbara Welzel, Dortmund	St. Johann in Brechten als Erinnerungsort. Annäherung 1
Prof. Markus Harzenetter, Münster	Behauste Erinnerung. Die Rolle der Denkmalpflege
Musikalisches Rahmenprogramm	Empfang im Gemeindehaus

<b>Freitag, 22. Oktober 2010</b>	
9.30 Uhr	Begrüßung und Einführung: Prof. Dr. Thomas Schilp und Prof. Dr. Barbara Welzel, Dortmund
10.30 Uhr	Prof. Dr. Ulrich Rehm, Bochum
11.15 Uhr Kaffeepause	Choreographie des Weltfinales. Das Brechtener Jüngste Gericht und die Kultur des Gedächtnisses
11.45 Uhr	Silke Rüsche, M.A., München/Dortmund
12.30 Uhr Mittagspause	Die Fresken der St.-Johann-Baptist-Kirche und die Denkmalpflege um 1900

<b>Samstag, 23. Oktober 2010</b>	
9.30 Uhr	Dr. Roland Pieper, Münster
Zur Architektur der Brechtener Kirche – Baiformen und Baudetails	Zur Architektur der Brechtener Kirche – Baiformen und Baudetails
14.15 Uhr	Dr. Joakim Hansson, Visby
Architektonische Beziehungen zwischen St. Johann in Brechten und Kirchen auf Gotland	Architektonische Beziehungen zwischen St. Johann in Brechten und Kirchen auf Gotland
15.00 Uhr Kaffeepause	15.30 Uhr
	Pfarrer Johannes Tripp, Leipzig
	Rätselhafte Löcher in Gewölben – Merkwürdige Nischen in Wänden. Auf Spurensuche zur Inszenierung von Festen in gotischen Kirchen
	16.15 Uhr
	Pfarrer Hanno Gerke, Dortmund-Brechten
	Lebendige Steine. Die St.-Johann-Baptist-Kirche als Ort der religiösen Erfahrung
17.00 Uhr	17.00 Uhr
	Claus Peter, Hamm
	Lothringische Glockengießer in Westfalen. Die Antonius-Paris-Glocke in Brechten (1652)
18.00 Uhr Abendessen	18.00 Uhr Abendessen
<b>Abendveranstaltung</b>	
19.30 Uhr	Prof. Dr. Thomas Schilp, Dortmund
St. Johann in Brechten als Erinnerungsort. Annäherung 2	St. Johann in Brechten als Erinnerungsort. Annäherung 2
Prof. Dr. h.c. Otto Gerhard Oexle, Berlin	Das Mittelalter in unserer Gegenwart. Überlegungen zu St. Johann in Brechten



## Dortmund als Hansestadt: Fernhandel und Kulturtransfer

8. Dortmunder Kolloquium zur Kunst, Kultur und Geschichte in der spätmittelalterlichen Stadt

Date 19-20 November 2010  
 Location Dortmund  
 Language German

Like the previously announced symposium, the eighth *Dortmunder Kolloquium zur Kunst, Kultur und Geschichte in der spätmittelalterlichen Stadt* focusses on the history of the Dortmund in Germany. The theme of this eighth symposium is Dortmund as Hanseatic Town, and it deals with the various foreign influences on art and culture, which were introduced through Dortmund's busy trade activities.

For more information, please consult the provided scans of the flyers. A larger version of the programme can be downloaded here:

[http://www.let.uu.nl/mmr/images/Dortmund\\_als\\_Hansestadt.jpg](http://www.let.uu.nl/mmr/images/Dortmund_als_Hansestadt.jpg)

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 Prof. Dr. Barbara Welzel [barbara.welzel@tu-dortmund.de](mailto:barbara.welzel@tu-dortmund.de)



Freitag, 19. November 2010

19.00 Uhr  
 Begrüßung:  
 Pfarrer Michael Küstermann, Stadtkirche St. Reinoldi

Grußworte:  
 Hans-Dieter Michalski,  
 Vorsitzender der Kulturstiftung Dortmund  
 Altburgemeister Adolf Misksch,  
 Vorsitzender des Historischen Vereins für Dortmund und die Grafschaft Mark

Dr.-Ing. Barbara Seifen, Münster  
 Das Projekt «Fremde Impulse» der Landschaftsverbände Rheinland und Westfalen-Lippe

Prof. Dr. Thomas Schilp und Prof. Dr. Barbara Welzel, Dortmund  
 Einführung

Prof. Dr. Rolf Hammel-Kiesow, Lübeck  
 Ökonomische Netzwerke und »Amigone« im Zeitalter der Proto-Globalisierung – das Bild von der Hanse im frühen 21. Jahrhundert

Prof. Dr. Thomas Schilp, Dortmund  
 Dortmund und die Hanse

Prof. Dr. Michael Stegemann, Dortmund  
 Musik in Hansestädten – mit Musikvorführung

Empfang in der Reinoldikirche

Ende der Veranstaltung: 21.30 Uhr

Samstag, 20. November 2010

10.00 Uhr  
 Prof. Dr. Rudolf Holbach, Oldenburg  
 »Naardensche Laken nehme ich lieber als den Aalborgischen Hering«. Hansische Kaufleute und ihr Warenhandel im späten Mittelalter

10.45 Uhr  
 Ein Prachtornat für den Lübecker Dom  
 Prof. Dr. Birgitt Borkopp-Restle, Bern  
 Eine Dalmatika und ihre gestickten Besätze. Die Materialien und ihre Herkunft  
 Prof. Dr. Barbara Schellewald, Basel  
 Heinrich II. Bocholt – Inszenierung im Leben und nach dem Tode

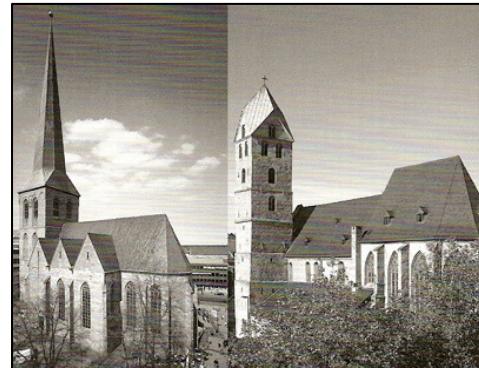
12.00 Uhr Kaffeepause

12.30 Uhr  
 Dr. Julianne von Fircks, Mainz  
 »Aus dem Königreich der Tartaren kommen Goldstoffe und Seide« – Seiden mit chinesischem Dekor im Stralsunder Paramentenschatz

13.15 Uhr  
 Prof. Dr. Annetra Stauffer, Köln  
 Kostbare Güter aus dem Süden: Italienische Seiden in Dortmund

14.00 Uhr  
 Dr. Birgit Franke und Prof. Dr. Barbara Welzel, Dortmund  
 Auf den Spuren von Marco Polo

Ende der Veranstaltung: 15.00 Uhr



Die freie Reichsstadt Dortmund war im Mittelalter bedeutende Hansestadt. Die Dortmunder Fernkaufleute agierten von Brügge bis Novgorod, von Visby (Gotland) bis Riga, Reval/Tallinn und Danzig. Sie hatten Zugang zu den Warenströmen aus dem nahen und fernen Orient. Die Kunstwerke in den Dortmunder Kirchen spiegeln diese nachgerade globale Vernetzung: Viele sind selbst repräsentative Importstücke, in anderen sind kostbare Luxusgüter des Fernhandels (vor allem Textilien) repräsentiert, immer wieder wurden aus fernen Ländern importierte Rohstoffe (Holz aus dem Baltikum, Pigmente für die Farben aus dem Orient) verwendet. Aus heutiger Sicht gewinnt solche weitgespannte Vernetzung in der vormodernen Welt wieder großes Interesse.

Die Tagung ist für Interessierte geöffnet, eine Anmeldung ist nicht erforderlich.



### Workshop: Funerary Culture in the Medieval and Early Modern Netherlands

Date: 27-28 January 2011  
Location: Amsterdam  
Organization: V. Bonenkampová (VUA) and K. Goudriaan (VUA)  
Language: Dutch

Funerary ritual in the Netherlands during the medieval and early modern period has not been studied very much. In the past decade, however, liturgical commemoration and funerary ritual as an important aspect of it, have gained in importance as a subject of investigation. In the same period, urban archaeology resulted in a series of important discoveries. Researchers from different disciplines within the humanities, such as historians, art historians, archaeologists, genealogists and anthropologists, are attracted by a great variety of sources, both written texts and objects and material remains.

The aim of this workshop is to bring together researchers from these different disciplines to explore and debate their common ground, viz. medieval and early modern funerary ritual. Questions to be discussed may be the following: Which correspondence (or lack of it) exists between the treatment of the dead body and the religious convictions that influence sepulchral habits? In this respect, does the Reformation cause a break? What about remembering and its opposite, forgetting? In which measure and in what ways is sepulchral culture serving as expression of social stratification and of group and individual identities?

From the participants a contribution of € 20.- will be asked in order to meet the costs of lunch and drinks.

Registration for this workshop can be done by sending an e-mail to: [v.bonenkampova@let.vu.nl](mailto:v.bonenkampova@let.vu.nl)

Viera Bonenkampová  
Koen Goudriaan

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### Seventh Symposium on *Memoria* Research

(organized by the University of Duisburg-Essen and Utrecht University)

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The *Seventh Symposium on Memoria Research* will take place in March 2011. Further information will be available in the next issue of MMR (January 2011).

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### MeMO at the International Medieval Congress, Leeds

Date 11-14 July 2011  
Organization Institute for Medieval Studies (IMS)  
Website <http://www.leeds.ac.uk/ims/imc/>

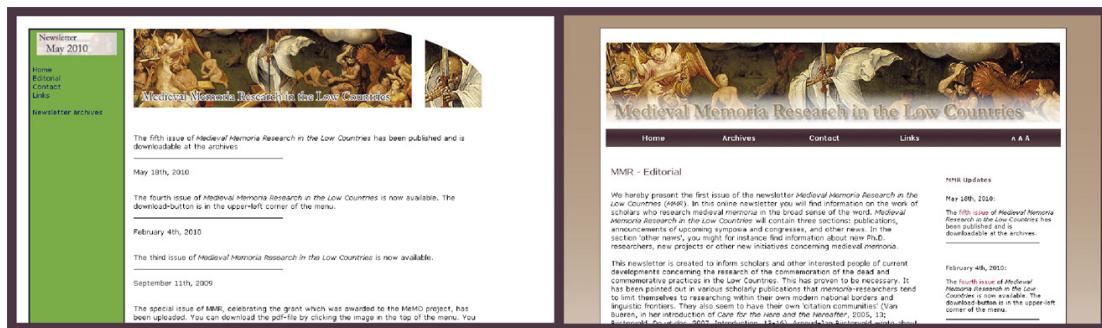
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Following the successful MeMO sessions during the IMC of 2010, the MeMO-project will be hosting several more sessions during the next congress of 2011. Additional information on these sessions will follow when the programme has been finalized.

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## A brand new look for the MMR website!

As Truus van Bueren already mentioned in the editorial of this newsletter, this issue of MMR celebrates the results of the first year of the MeMO-project. It seemed like the perfect occasion to also give the MMR website a much needed makeover. The new website still hosts all of the old content, but now presents it in a more streamlined manner. (<http://www.let.uu.nl/mmr/>)



The old and the new website side by side.

Do note that some of the paths to the various pages have been changed, so if you have bookmarked anything but the main homepage, you may wish to update your bookmarks.

Charlotte Dikken

## The description standard MeMO DS

For the inventory and description of *memoria* source types an international description standard, MeMO DS, was developed. Existing description standards did not prove entirely suitable as MeMO takes the concept of *memoria* as its starting point. MeMO DS consists of one standard for object sources and one for texts and text carriers (*MeMO DS Objects* and *MeMO DS Texts* respectively). See: <http://memo.hum.uu.nl/pages/products.html>

## The data model

MeMO DS formed the basis for the development of the data model and the development of the databases. The data model was designed by Jan van Mansum at *Data Archiving and Networked Services* (DANS) in collaboration with Rolf de Weijert and in consultation with Leen Breure, IT specialist at Utrecht University. See: <http://memo.hum.uu.nl/pages/products.html>

## Commemoration in the Convent Mariënpoel: Prayer and Politics

The Rich Internet Application called *Commemoration in the Convent Mariënpoel: Prayer and Politics* (<http://www.cs.uu.nl/research/projects/i-cult/CLE/6Memoria/>) is an interactive website. It is especially aimed at students and other interested parties, to allow them to familiarise themselves with all aspects concerning the commemoration of the dead. The RIA, created by Leen Breure and Truus van Bueren, is a scientific publication which aims to be accessible to a wider audience. The Research Notes will be added to the RIA shortly.

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## Between heaven and hell. Death in the Middle Ages

*'Between heaven and hell. Death in the Middle Ages'* is the upcoming exhibition at the Jubelparkmuseum. It will run from December 2, 2010 to April 24, 2011.  
<http://www.kmkg-mrah.be/newnl/index.asp?id=529>

An exceptional array of objects will be on display, which is the reason why this won't be a travelling exhibition. It will be shown exclusively in Brussels.

The living 'lived' among the dead and their perception of life and death was expressed through written and visual sources. Looking at these sources, one sees great expectations and despair, hope and fear over what was to come after death, acceptance and inconsolableness.

This exhibition offers an overview of a 1000 year period of death, burial and remembrance. The attitude of man in the Middle Ages towards death and his attempts to maintain his social status after death are the main themes of this exhibition.

Does all this seem rather sinister? It was certainly not intended that way. This exhibition provides us with a chance to get rid of the many prejudices that surround the Middle Ages. One of these has to do with the taboo that modern man created around death. During the Middle Ages no such taboo existed, as man literally lived among the dead. The dead, as well as the sick and the ill, the handicapped and the elderly were all part of daily life.

The exhibition is built around four major themes.

1. The historical context of death. During the Middle Ages, people often died in war, during fighting and torture, from illnesses and epidemics, from poverty or simply from starvation. The death toll of for instance outbreaks of leprosy and the plague immediately come to mind. Due to the social and economic conditions, people simply weren't always able to live a healthy life. Still, some of them did manage to live to a ripe old age. In order to stay healthy all kinds of methods were used. Quacks and doubtful 'remedies' aside, there was a widespread knowledge of medicinal plants. Let's not forget that the first 'cookbooks' were written by those involved in medicine.
2. Palliative care and the funerary rites that go with it. The link between the individual and the community is shown through rituals at the deathbed, at the funeral and also through the mourning and remembrance ceremonies. What happened to the body after death? There are some major differences between the handling of the bodies of 'The Great' and those of the common folk. The kind of funeral given to the deceased depended on their social status. Quite a significant part of the population was even excluded from a dignified funeral. What was the fate of the leper, of the executed criminal, of he who committed suicide, of the homosexual, of the Jew and of the unbaptized child?
3. Funerary topography. The graves and their monuments reflect the status of the deceased. Behind every grave hides a man, a woman and a community. At the beginning they were separated from the areas intended for the living, but the necropolises slowly made their way into the city during the Middle Ages. Cemeteries and cult places earned their place within the community. How were the cemeteries organized? To be buried within the church or outside also had its hierachal meaning. Even within the church building, not all the final resting places were equal. Regular graves and mausoleums, mass graves and funerary monuments are all examined during this exhibition.

4. Faith and superstition get a proper explanation. Notions like paradise, hell and purgatory, what did they mean? How could one ‘earn’ his paradise? After death, one has to wait for the Last Judgment. The dance of the dead, the wheel of fortune, the good death – these are just some of the notions and motives used to describe and express the relationship with eternity.

A selection of around 250 objects will be on display. They include human bones (skeletons), exquisite ivory and wooden sculptures, manuscripts, paintings, drawings, funerary monuments, *memento mori*, and many other objects. By means of models, pictures and up-to-date multimedia a picture shall be painted of how death was perceived during a period of 1000 years. Some of the objects on display were never shown before or have never before left their original place of storage.

Aside from the exhibition, visitors are also offered a wide range of activities like workshops and lectures, the contents of which are closely related to the theme of the exhibition. The aim of our projects is always to surprise and offer new insights.

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### **PhD researcher: Hartwig Kersken**

University	Universität Duisburg-Essen, Historisches Institut – Landesgeschichte der Rhein-Maas-Region
Title Research	<i>The history of Thorn Abbey from its foundation till the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Sovereignty, Memory and (noble) self-conception</i> [Das Frauenstift Thorn von seiner Gründung bis zum Ende des 15. Jahrhunderts. Herrschaft, Memoria und (adeliges) Selbstverständnis] (working title)
	Prof. Dr. Jörg Engelbrecht, Prof. Dr. Thomas Schilp

E-mail address [hartwig.kersken@uni-due.de](mailto:hartwig.kersken@uni-due.de)

For nearly 100 years medieval collegial convents for women had not been subject of historical research. This is because these convents are often looked down upon. However this fundamental contempt did not only result from the opinion of the early inquirers. The contemporaries of these convents also regarded them as “degenerated monasteries” (as per the verdict of the 1059 Lateran Council).

This opinion also applies to the Abbey of Thorn, an early medieval foundation situated near the Meuse river in today’s Dutch province Limburg. Although there are several publications about single aspects of Thorn’s history, a synoptic consideration of its tradition is still absent from historical research. The intended comprehensive processing of the Abbey’s medieval tradition, which mainly resides in the *Regionaal Historisch Centrum Limburg* (formerly Rijksarchief Limburg) in Maastricht, aims to give new perspectives and to complete the still fragmentary image of female forms of religious life in the Middle Ages. Besides the general historical development of the community, its inner and outer conditions, religious and spiritual life (especially the memorial foundations and practices) and its property situations and power relations should be set in the focus of interest.

A further essential aspect is the community's specific social composition, since despite results of newer historical research the over generalized perception of the chapters' "noble exclusivity" is still common in public opinion.

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### **Colophon**

Webmaster and editor-in-chief

Charlotte Dikken

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Truus van Bueren, Charlotte Dikken, Bram van den Hoven  
van Genderen and Andrea van Leerdam

This newsletter is part of the project *The functions of art, ritual and text in medieval memoria*, OGC,  
Utrecht University.

Contributions to this newsletter, names and e-mail addresses of researchers wishing to be included on the mailing list, etc. can be sent to Charlotte Dikken, using the following e-mail address:

C.P.A.Dikken@uu.nl

The next issue of *Medieval Memoria Research in the Low Countries* will appear in January 2011.  
<http://mmr.let.uu.nl/>